

Flathead County Road and Bridge Advisory Committee
Advisory Committee Meeting
August 13, 2007 -**7:00 pm**
Solid Waste District Board Room-County Landfill

1. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Charles Lapp-Chairman, Tom Sands, David Hilde, Mike Schlegel-Vice Chairman, Karl Schrade

Staff Present: Road and Bridge Operations Manager Guy Foy, Public Works Director Dave Prunty, Recording Secretaries Karen Rogers, Patti Vernarsky, Administrative Assistant Mike Pence.

Public Present: Tom Gorton

2. Introductory Remarks

3. Approval of Board meeting Minutes – Action Required

Tom Sands moves to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2009 meeting, Dave Hilde seconds the motion. All in favor; motion passed, minutes approved.

4. Action Agenda – **No Items Requiring Action**

5. Directors Report

a. Maintenance on Dead End Roads

Dave Prunty distributed the list for dead end roads. He stated this is the initial list that was compiled for consideration of dead end road maintenance. He stated the road staff took the commissioners out on the bus tour yesterday and viewed seven of these dead end roads.

Discussion was held regarding implementation of a policy and a recommendation from the committee for the commissioners on the maintenance of dead end roads.

Charles Lapp asked about the road in whitefish that is only one lane and the operator has to back into, and why it wasn't included on this list. Guy Foy replied that there are more residents than just one or two on Rest Haven than what is on the list.

Dave Prunty stated that traffic counts are something that should not be included in the criteria. He continued with the list is just a place for the committee to start discussion with. Dave Hilde asked why the roads in lakeside and whitefish they

weren't included. Dave Prunty replied that Ovila, Guy & Patti got together and only chose the short stub roads to start with. He stated that the commissioners were shown Vitt Lane and the commissioners were amazed that the road was maintained by the county.

Dave Prunty stated this is just a starting point. Dave Hilde asked about the roads in lakeside and what would be the criteria for not maintaining them. Dave Prunty replied the retaining walls, the porch pads, and other encroachments that have been hit by our equipment.

Charles Lapp reviewed the list and stated there are not a lot of real maintenance issues but on Lakeside Blvd there are a lot of maintenance issues. Dave Hilde stated there are a lot of people there and as a group they could afford to hire their own plows. He stated the landowners are not trying to make it simple and felt they should do more to help.

Mike Schlegel stated there needs to be a certain amount of footage to wing off snow. Dave Prunty replied this is the kind input from the committee of issues the county is looking for. He stated certain criterion needs to be compiled.

Mike Schlegel stated there needs to be maintainable right-of-way. Tom Sands stated if the road can meet the criteria then the county should be responsible for maintenance. Karl Schrade asked about utility poles in the right-of-way. Dave Prunty stated there is a citizen that insists on having a power pole moved. The county contacted Lincoln Electric and the cost would be \$6,000 to move the pole. He stated that when the county is working on a project that the utility companies are contacted and work with us to move their poles.

Charles Lapp stated there needs to be a place for the snow plow to turn around. Dave Hilde asked if the staff and committee would set the criteria. Dave Prunty replied yes, and then the criteria would be taken to the commissioners. He continued that the public is going to be somewhat resistant. Tom Sands stated that no alleyways should be maintained. Guy Foy replied that Hungry Horse, Martin City, areas like that have a lot of alley ways that the county maintains. Charles Lapp asked if these were the main entrances to the homes. Mike Pence stated the criteria would need to be fair and equitable for the commissioners to agree. Charles Lapp stated the justification would be the cost of maintenance.

Karl Schrade questioned on how wide a clear zone. Dave Prunty stated the clear zone will be a definite, due obstruction that are just off the pavement. Karl Schrade stated the road needs some classification and to be practical on how to approach this concern. Charles Lapp stated the committee is pretty much agreeable and to see if there are more roads to add. Dave Prunty stated such roads like Muth Lane being a one lane road; these are the ones that are no brainers. Tom Sands stated the county attorney should look into why such roads even became a county road. Charles Lapp stated the remainder of the roads there will

need to be more discussion. He asked if it would be something the committee should look into more this winter. Dave Prunty told the committee to let the staff know of any roads that need to be looked at. Mike Pence stated there would be a public notice and hearing. Charles Lapp stated as the committee moves forward and the decision to make a recommendation, a public notice should be done. Dave Prunty asked if the engineers need to be involved. Mike Schlegel stated yes. Everyone agreed that Ryan should be involved. Charles Lapp stated something should be started right away. Karl Schrade asked if it would be a benefit to do subdivisions and dead end roads together. Dave Hilde stated these 16 roads should be started as soon as possible. He asked how long for a policy to be gotten together, and felt these roads should be done before winter. Tom Sands stated a resolution would take the pressure off of the county. Mike Schlegel stated there should be a public announcement that the county is looking at abandoning the maintenance on certain roads.

Dave Prunty stated he will work on putting the criteria together. Dave Hilde stated he would like the criteria put into sentence form.

b. Draft Road Specifications

Dave Prunty stated the county is waiting from comments back from other engineers and surveyors on the draft of the road specifications. He felt the standards committee was doing well and they are just waiting to see what comments there may be.

c. Operations Update

Guy stated the weather slowed chipping down a little. He continued that the county is continuing on with overlaying.

d. Dust Cost Share Recap

Dave Prunty briefly recapped the dust cost share program. He stated the final numbers were 16 miles for mag chloride and a ½ mile for the black oil. He stated the bid was on 8 miles for the black oil, but when the bid price was turned in the citizens decided to back out. He continued that Ashley Lake Road was the only one that participated in the black oil. He stated that Schellinger's bid was for 8 miles, but since it was reduced to a ½ mile, the county had to negotiate with them and the price went up to \$2.55 a foot. He stated the county also graded another 24 miles for the smaller sections of roadway that residents wanted dust palliative on. Dave Prunty had hoped the dust cost share program would have been done by June 30, but did not get done until July. He stated the delay was from receiving the money from the citizens, having to prepare the bid documents and the modifications. He felt the next year will go much better. He stated the comments he has received are that most of the people thought it was great and will join the next year.

6. Comments from Committee Members

Dave Prunty stated the transportation plan should be getting close, and Ryan will be getting the information out for review. Questions were asked about where the stimulus money was going to be used, and the answer was for the Mennonite Church RSID portion that the county is paying for.

7. Comments from Public (15 Minutes Maximum)

Tom Gorton, Creston Road. He stated that he had received three inches of water from rain the other day, and was concerned that the graded did not grade his road. He stated he liked hearing that gravel roads are a concern for the committee. He stated the whole east side roads are in terrible shape. He asked what about the dust cost share and if a certain distance is required. He would join if the county would allow the 600' in front of his house. He stated he has been receiving paper work on Grayling Road. He asked about the work being done on Grayling Road and why the developer of the subdivision isn't paving the road. He has several concerns about the road base, the 22 foot width and not 24 feet according to the standards, the county doing the road work. He felt Grayling Road should be an RSID like Mennonite Church Road. He knows that the developer is Charles Lapp, and is unsure as to how Grayling Road was able to get paved without an RSID.

8. Adjournment

Mike Schlegel made the motion to adjourn, Dave Hilde seconded, all in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.